

The Doctrine of the Bible

Various Scriptures

“All scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness so that the man of God may be complete equipped for every good work.” -2 Timothy 3:16

What would you say is the most challenging aspect of understanding the Bible?

Doctrine: A principle or position or the body of principles in a branch of knowledge or system of belief. In light of our study, biblical doctrine is the true _____ and _____ of the **Bible**.

● Trust Issues...

Many people do not **trust** that the Bible is truly the Word of God. Some suggest that it is a man made tool used to control the masses. Because of this, they tend to live however they want and thus place their own will and desires above the will and desires of God. In doing so, this causes us to drift further away from how God would have us to live and serve Him.

What is the Bible and how do we know it is truly the word of God?

*The Bible was originally written by _____ who were inspired by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it is presented without any error or contradiction. It is comprised of 66 books contained in the authorized biblical canon of scripture. Finally, we believe the Bible is not only the **center** of Christian union, but the **supreme** standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions shall be tried.
Psalm 119:160; 2 Peter 1:19:-21

Who wrote the Bible?

*44 different men wrote in the _____, _____, and _____ languages. From Genesis to Revelation or Moses to John, the Bible was created. Moses died 1,450 years before the apostle John was born. John never met Moses, Paul never met King David, yet God told each man what to write. In doing so they continued building on the same foundation of faith.

How was the Bible written?

*The Bible was written on clay, bark, wood and stone tablets; and sometimes, linen and animal skins were also used. Later the Bible was written on scrolls. This required many hours and work in order to pass the Bible from generation to generation.

What is canon of scripture?

*The English word canon comes from the Greek *kanon*. This word means “rule” or “measuring stick”.

What measure or standard was used to determine which books should be classified as scripture?

*Prophetic Authorship (Must be written by a prophet or apostle)
*Witness of the Spirit
*Acceptance of the people of God
John 14:26

Can you name 3 other books that were written in biblical days, and referenced in the Bible but are not included or classified as scripture?

*The Book of the _____ of the Lord; Numbers 21:14-15
*The Book of _____; Joshua 10:13; 2 Samuel 1:18
*The Book of Solomon; 1 Kings 11:41

Can you name 4 other prophets who wrote about people and historical events that are referenced but their materials are not included in the Bible?

* _____ & _____ 1 Chronicles 29:29
* _____ & _____ 2 Chronicles 9:29

According to Jude 3, our faith is defined by **scripture**. Therefore since we all have been given the Word of God that benefits all the saints, we are to live according to the scriptures.

How do we know?

-There are no _____ manuscripts.
-There are no _____ books.
-There are no people who have a _____ revelation requiring us to do new things.

We can be confident that the same power that God used to **produce** His Word is still being used to **preserve** it!

In your opinion, why is it important that we trust the Bible as God’s written Word?

“Christianity does not start by defining God, or Jesus Christ, or salvation. The basis of Christianity is found in the authority of Scripture. If we cannot identify what Scripture is, then we cannot properly distinguish any theological truth from error.”

● **Understanding Issues....**

Another challenge to grasping biblical doctrine is found in our ability to understand how the scriptures directly relate to us personally. The more we receive God’s Word for what it is, the more we will grow and respond how God would have us to.

***Scriptures:** What do you think about the teaching of God’s Word? True doctrine must include the Word of God; The Bible witnesses to the fact and activity of God. The Bible reveals God’s plan for mankind and without it there would be no absolute knowledge of God. 2 Timothy 2:15

***Personal Knowledge:** What do you know about your life, how has it brought you closer to God? It has been said, “knowledge begins with _____.” We obtain knowledge from hearing, reading, experience, and life. Therefore we can only know what we have learned by experiences and knowledge. Proverbs 1:7

Personal Intellect: Why is important to make a decision to be filled and led by the Holy Spirit? Christians have a _____ to think, a _____ to know, and a _____ to decide. The reality we see is a person can think he/she is right, but can be wrong. We must understand biblical doctrine is not based on what we think, but what the Bible teaches. Ephesians 5:18; Philippians 2:5

Personal Practice: How are you applying the Word of God in your everyday lifestyle? The Bible teaches that it is not only a waste of time to hear and know the Word of God and not put it into practice, but it is also self-deception. It is important to remember that no one can become a mature Christian without the Word of God. 1 Peter 2:2

As you reflect on our common understanding issues, what is one way you can encourage someone who is having difficulty understanding their purpose in life and why they are here?

● **Study Issues...**

Unfortunately, many people don’t take time to study God’s word. Whether it is fear, inconvenience, or just laziness, Bible study is just not a priority. This is why God raises up and blesses the church with pastors, teachers, missionaries, and evangelists to teach and preach the Word of God and remind us to study His Word.

➤ **Keep in mind, 2 Timothy 3:16 the Word of God is for righteousness**

Doctrine..... Teaching..... What is *right*

Reproof..... Teaching..... What is *not right*
Correction.... Teaching.....How to *become right*
Instruction.... Teaching.....How to *stay right*.

✓ 5 Things to help you **know** the Bible:

1. **Read** the Bible; Psalm 119:97
2. **Memorize** the scripture: Psalm 119:11
3. **Meditate** upon the Word of God; Psalm 119:15
4. **Understand** what you study; Psalm 119:169
5. **Obey** and practice what you learn; Psalm 119:44

As you study, always remember that the Scriptures are the true Word of God. Let the Word of God prove all things and **never** listen to the opinions of man. Put your trust in the Word of God and allow the Holy Spirit to give you the correct understanding.

What is one thing you have learned that you are willing to share with someone else?

“Fill your mind with God’s Word and you will have no room for Satan’s lies.”